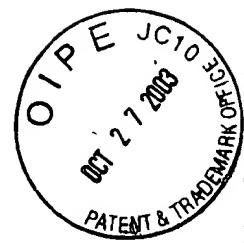


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent Application of:
Abramovici et al.

Serial No.: 09/446,601

Filed: 03 April 2000

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: D. Jagoe

For: Solid Pharmaceutical Composition Containing
Benzofuran Derivatives

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.114, Applicants hereby request continued examination of the above-identified application.

This request is made in response to the final rejection mailed April 23, 2003 (Paper No. 13) setting a three-month shortened statutory period for response expiring July 23, 2003. The period for response is extended three months to October 23, 2003, pursuant to the Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) submitted herewith. This Request for Continued Examination is therefore timely filed.

Accompanying this request is an Amendment and Response in reply to the final rejection. Entry of the Amendment and consideration of the remarks are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$770 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) to Deposit Account No. 19-0091. A duplicate copy of this request is enclosed.

10/29/2003 AHONDAF1 00000173 190091 09446601

02 FC:1801

770.00 DA

Dated: 10/23/03

Sanofi-Synthelabo Inc.
Patent Department
9 Great Valley Parkway
P.O. Box 3026
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name

Pauline D'Orsi

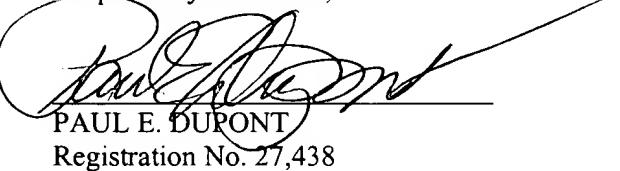
Date

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OCT 30 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Respectfully submitted,


PAUL E. DUPONT
Registration No. 27,438